Message Text

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FODAG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: FAO, APER, AORG

SUBJEC-: APPOINTMENT OF NEXT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND RELATED HIGH APPOINTMENTS

REF: ROME 6587

FOR AMBASSADOR GARDNER FROM MAYNES

1. I THINK WE NEED TO GIVE CREDIT TO SAOUMA FOR EFFORTS
HE IS MAKING TO PLACE AMERICANS IN A GREATER NUMBER OF WFPFAO POSITIONS BUT AM SOMEWHAT CONCERNED OVER IMPRESSION
HE SEEMS TO GIVE TO US (AND CANADIANS) THAT WE NEED TO
DISPLAY OUR AFFECTION FOR HIM BY SUPPORTING ALL PROGRAM
PROPOSALS IN GOVERNING BODY SESSIONS IF OUR PLACEMENT
EFFORTS ARE TO BE SUCCESSFUL. EVEN THOUGH WE TRY OUR
BEST THERE IS SIMPLY NO WAY WE CAN ALWAYS BE IN ACCORD
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AND IT IS IMPORTANT THAT HE RECOGNIZE THIS.

2. SOME CLARIFICATIONS ARE NEEDED CONCERNING THE POSTS CITED REFTEL. WHILE SAOUMA WAS IN WASHINGTON, HE GAVE ME HIS COMMITMENT ON RETAINING AN AMERICAN IN THE FAO DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL POSITION AND ALSO PLACING AMERICANS AS HEAD OF THE FAO INVESTMENT PROGRAM AND THE

WFP PROJECT MANAGEMENT DIVISION (NOT RESOURCES AS CITED

REFTEL). IN A LATER TALK WITH HIGGINSON HE RECANTED SOMEWHAT ON THE INVESTMENT POSITION BUT NOW (REFTEL) HAS AGAIN INDICATED CONCURRENCE. WE WILL PROCEED TO RECRUIT GOOD CANDIDATES FOR IT AND SUBMIT THEIR FORMS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

- 3. WE ALSO WILL WORK ON CANDIDATES FOR THE FAO DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL POSITION BUT NEED TO BE CLEAR ON WHEN A VACANCY WILL OCCUR. SAOUMA HAS TOLD FODAG THAT HE INTENDS TO REPLACE JACKSON AT THE END OF THE YEAR BUT IS THIS DEFINITE? WE NOTE THAT JACKSON WILL NOT REACH RETIREMENT AGE UNTIL NOVEMBER 1978. SHOULD WE ASSUME INCIDENTALLY THAT ANOTHER SLOT WILL BE FOUND FOR JACKSON UNTIL THAT RETIREMENT DATE IF HE PREFERS NOT TO LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION EARLY? AS A REPLACEMENT, DOES THE DG WISH A PERSON WITH HEAVY EXPERIENCE IN ADMINISTRATION, OR A PARTICULAR AREA OF FAO'S TECHNICAL ACTIVITY, OR BOTH? DOES HE HAVE SOMEONE ALREADY IN MIND?
- 4. I FULLY AGREE (PARA 7 REFTEL) THAT WE ARE OBLIGED TO PRESENT EXCELLENT CANDIDATES BUT TO DO SO, PARTICULARLY ON THE FAO DEPUTY AND INVESTMENT POSITIONS, WE WILL NEED TO AVOID ANY WAFFLING ON COMMITMENTS AND AS MUCH LEAD TIME AS POSSIBLE ON VACANCY DATES. CHRISTOPHER

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Subject: EC-: APPOINTMENT OF NEXT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND RELATED HIGH APPOINTMENTS

TAGS: APER, AORG, FAO

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